

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

CARPENTERS LOCAL 210
P.O. BOX 668
427 STILLSON ROAD
FAIRFIELD, CT 06824-0668



GLENN MARSHALL, PRESIDENT
LOCAL UNION 210

TELEPHONE
(203) 334-4300
FAX (203) 334-4700

Good morning, Chairman Colapietro and Chairman Shapiro. My name is Glenn Marshall, and I am the President of Carpenter's Local 210, as well as District Business Manager for the carpenter's union in Connecticut. I am here to make some brief remarks in support of Raised Bill 785, An Act Concerning Construction Change Orders.

You might not think a bill regarding change orders would have an impact on rank-and-file construction workers, but it does. The New England Regional Council of Carpenters is signatory with more than 1,600 contractors. A vast majority of these companies are small businesses. The slumping economy and tightening credit market have made it extremely difficult for many of our small contractors to compete and survive.

A small subcontractor often verbally commits to a change order from a construction manager, but, in some cases, is not paid for many months. Or after the job is completed, they are only paid for a portion of the actual cost. If a general contractor or construction manager is not doing his job in processing the order for one reason or another, it could hold up payments for months or years which could put small contractors out of business and, in turn, put many workers—and their families—at risk with no health coverage and unpaid retirement benefits.

Thank you for your time and consideration.